Secretary: The short title of the bill shall be "The Travancore Partition Bill."

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee composed of the following:—

Messrs. 1. M. Govindan,
2. K. A. Raman Pillai,
3. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai,
4. M. K. Velu Pillai,
5. Sahib Bahadur K. Shahool Hameed,
6. V. N. Padmanabha Pillai,
7. Sry. P. Thankamma,
8. G. Revi Varma,
9. M. Sultan Mohideen,
10. K. S. Joseph,
11. Myself (G. Narayana Aiyar),
12. M. K. Mackar Pillai, and
13. D. Krishnan Potti.

Mr. M. Govindan: I second it.

The motion was put and carried.

THE TRAVANCORE VARNAVA BILL.

Mr. K. G. Narayana Panicker: I beg to move for leave to introduce the Travancore Varnava Bill.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: I second it.

Mr. K. A Raman Pillai: I am sorry that I have to oppose the Bill. The Bill is now sought to be introduced by Mr. Narayana Panicker who sometimes ago vehemently opposed the introduction of such communal legislations. I was so much impressed with his view-point that even now it is difficult for me to shake off the impression that he created in my mind although some time has elapsed by now. If legislation is going to be enacted for every community, sect and sub-sect, it seems to me that our Statute Book will be over-burdened with such communal legislation.

Mr. G. Revi Varma: May I know the number of people belonging to that community?

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: I have absolutely no idea of the number of Varnavas. As a matter of fact, the statement too does not give the number of people who come under the category of Varnavas.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Can the honourable member say who are the Varnavas?

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: It is also my difficulty. The definition given in the Bill is by enumeration. I do not think it gives a clear exposition of the connotation of the term "Varnava."

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[Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai.]

Now let me come to the Bill. As regards the Hindus there are those who follow Makkathayam and those who follow the Marumakkathayam laws. So far as the Marumakkathayees are concerned—Nairs, Ezhavas and Nanjinad Vellalas—they have now got their own personal laws. But when we read through their personal laws the provisions are more or less identical, so that what I would submit is if there was only one comprehensive law for all these persons who formerly followed the Marumakkathayam system, it would have been very convenient. The point that I wish to emphasise is this. Now there are Hindus who follow the Makkathayam system.

Mr. G. Madhavan: May I know whether the honourable member is aware that there is a resolution standing in the name of Mr. Narayana Panicker which concerns all these commmnities?

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: Yes. I am fully aware. I shall deal with that point later. That is another argument I am going to raise.

President: Have you finished the present argument? (*Laughter*).

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: Mr. Madhavan pointed out to me that there is a resolution tabled by Mr. Narayana Panicker regarding all these communities.

There are Hindus who follow the customary Makkathayam system of inheritence.

President: I would invite Mr. Panicker to consider whether it is necessary just now, to introduce this Bill. This is a Bill which I trust cannot be passed by both Houses of this existing Legislature so as to bring about legislation into effect. On the other hand, there is a great deal to be said for the resolution standing in the name of Mr. Panicker. In these circumstances, does the honourable member wish to pursue the matter just-now, because this Bill will not become law during the tenure of this Legislature.

Mr. K. G. Narayana Panjcker: In view of the statement from the Chair.....

President: What is the 'statement' from the Chair? (*Laughter.*)

Mr. K. G. Narayana Panicker: My personal opinion is that even the passing of the Kammala Bill is injurious (*Laughter*). I have tabled that resolution to find out whether it was possible to codify the existing laws, since I sought to introduce the Bill. I shall myself withdraw the Bill now.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

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